

WHY MR. COCHRANE WAS DISMISSED.

**Premier Whitney Says He Was
an Active Partisan.**

TEMISKAMING RAILWAY.

**Mr. Harcourt Wants to Know
the Government's Policy.**

**A Single Tax Deputation Waits on the
Premier and Asks That Municipalities
be Allowed to Change Their
Present Taxation.**

The session of the Legislature yesterday afternoon lasted less than fifteen minutes. Bills by Mr. Torrance (North Perth) and Dr. Jessop (Lincoln) were read a first time. The former, an act to amend the consolidated municipal act of 1903, seeks to equalize assessments in smaller cities and towns in regard to local improvements affecting front and back streets. The latter deals with minor amendments to the act respecting the conveyance to trustees of burial grounds.

He Was an Active Partisan.

Premier Whitney, replying to Mr. Munro, said that James Cochrane, late Bailiff of the First Division Court of the county of Grey, had been dismissed from his position for having been an active partisan at election time.

Premier Whitney, in answer to Mr. Preston (Durham), said the report of the Railway Taxation Committee had not been received by the Government, but would be laid on the table immediately on its receipt.

The Temiskaming Railway.

Mr. Harcourt will ask on Wednesday next if the Government is in a position to announce its policy as to that part of the Temiskaming Railway now being operated and carrying passengers and freight. Is it the intention to lease the road or any part of it, or will the Government operate it?

Lincoln County's Jailer.

Correspondence regarding the appointment of Mr. George Bush to be jailer of the Lincoln county jail, in succession to the former occupant, who died in December, was laid upon the table by Hon. Mr. Hanna. This appointment, made by the late Administration, is said to have been the cause of bitterness among the Conservatives of Lincoln, some of whom, it is understood, desire to see Mr. Bush deposed and a Conservative appointed.

Inspection of Legal Offices.

Hon. Mr. Hanna also laid on the table yesterday the report of Mr. J. W. Mallon, inspector of legal offices, for the year ending December 31, 1904. In all there are now 316 offices, and the inspector's report shows that on the whole they are well conducted. The remuneration of the Sheriffs, whose duties are generally well performed, is, Mr. Mallon says, inadequate considering the importance of their offices, the responsibilities they are required to assume, and the amount of security they are obliged to furnish. The income of nine Sheriffs not paid wholly or in part by salary is each less than \$1,000. There was no improvement in the volume of business in the Local Master's offices during the year.

Budget Speech Next Tuesday.

Immediately after adjournment the Cabinet met for the consideration of

the estimates. It had been hoped to get these in such shape that Hon. Col. Matheson would be able to deliver his budget speech on Thursday, but that event will not now take place before Tuesday next.

The Junction Pool-room.

Premier Whitney said yesterday that the Attorney-General's Department was considering what action, if any, should be taken in regard to the Toronto Junction poolroom, which recently reopened.

A deputation of twenty single-taxers waited upon Premier Whitney yesterday morning and urged that the Provincial Government give to municipalities the power to change their present taxation if they deemed it wise. W. A. Douglass, Ald. Noble and others spoke. They pointed out existing evils, and said that a great number of municipalities were in favor of local option in taxation. The Premier thought it a little premature to have a bill of this character presented before the new assessment law had a trial. He expressed a desire to hear their views again after the present session.

Vegetable Growers Want a Grant.

The first local branch of the recently formed Ontario Vegetable Growers' Association has been started at Sarnia, with a membership of 26 names, which have been forwarded to H. B. Cowan. A strong deputation of the association will wait on Hon. Nelson Monteith next Thursday to ask for a Provincial grant. They will also request that the Provincial Fruit, Flower and Honey Shows be enlarged to include vegetables, and that the Guelph Agricultural College conduct investigations in regard to pests and blights which attack vegetables.

Taxing Lumbermen.

Aubrey White, Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands, and Dr. Kennedy, Law Clerk in the same department, yesterday heard some of the arguments in regard to the tolls exacted from lumbermen by the Pickarel River Improvement Company. This company, having erected dams on the river, is exacting a toll from lumbermen for the passage of logs by Government sanction. Playfair & White and A. Beck, lumber dealers, complain this toll is too exorbitant, and have appealed to the Minister of Crown Lands. The Pickarel River Improvement Company was represented by Mr. Lawrence, Playfair & White by Mr. Hodgins, K.C., and A. Beck by W. B. McMurrich, K.C. The hearing was adjourned till Wednesday.